

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 04006 291307Z

ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 ACDA-12 DOE-15

SOE-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08

NRC-05 DODE-00 SP-02 CEQ-01 /109 W

-----112957 301308Z /43

R 282226Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2117

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4006

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: ENRG MNUC TECH PARM VE

SUBJ; NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS FOR PEACEFUL NUCLEAR
COOPERATION

REF: STATE 93306

1. TEXT OF MODEL AGREEMENT WAS DELIVERED TO THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON APRIL 21 WITH A REQUEST
FOR AN EARLY INDICATION OF WHEN THE GOV WOULD BE ABLE
TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS. IN ACKNOWLEDGING THE RECEIPT
OF THE AGREEMENT, THE MINISTRY SAID IT WOULD STUDY THE
TEXT BUT GAVE NO INDICATION AS TO THE LIKELY TIMING
OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. THE TEXT WAS ALSO DELIVERED TO THE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR COUNCIL (CONAN) ON
APRIL 26, WITH A SIMILAR REQUEST. IN PRACTICE, CONAN
IS EXPECTED TO HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE
GOV FOR PREPARING FOR SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. CONAN
OFFICIALS SAID THEY WOULD REVIEW THE MODEL AGREEMENT
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXISTING BILATERAL COOPERATION
AGREEMENT. AS AN INITIAL REACTION, THEY APPEARED TO
PREFER A MODIFICATION OF THE EXISTING AGREEMENT RATHER
THAN THE NEGOTIATION OF A COMPLETELY NEW TEXT. THEY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CARACA 04006 291307Z

ALSO NOTED THAT AS THE EXISTING AGREEMENT EXPIRES IN
1980(FEB 8, 1980 ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY'S
RECORDS) SUCH MODIFICATIONS MIGHT BEST BE MADE IN THE
COURSE OF THE NORMAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR ITS RENEWAL.

3. COMMENT: BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE, WE DO NOT
EXPECT TO RECEIVE A MORE SUBSTANTIVE REACTION FROM THE

GOV SOON. REVIEWING THE CRITERIA FOR THE SCHEDULING OF NEGOTIATIONS AS GIVEN IN PARA 4 OF RETEL, OUR PRELIMINARY COMMENTS WITH RESPECT TO VENEZUELA IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. IN GENERAL TERMS, VENEZUELA APPEARS LIKELY TO AGREE TO US REQUIREMENTS FOR COOPERATION UNLESS THERE IS A BASIC POLICY SHIFT BY THE GOV IN THIS AREA AS THE RESULT OF THE DECEMBER 1978 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. SOME OF THESE REQUIREMENTS, AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM, APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOV IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR PENDING REQUEST FOR ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THEIR RESEARCH REACTOR.

B AS WE ASSUME VENEZUELA'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS FOR FUEL FOR ITS RESEARCH REACTOR WILL BE MET IN THE NEAR FUTURE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND OF THE US OFFER OF GIFT FUEL THRU THE IAEA, VENEZUELA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM WOULD NOT SEEM TO REQUIRE AN EARLY AGREEMENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, VENEZUELA HAS REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED A STRONG INTEREST IN CONTINUING AND EVEN EXPANDING BILATERAL NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH THE US AND THIS WILL PROBABLY WANT TO RENEW THE EXISTING COOPERATION AGREEMENT WHICH IS TO EXPIRE EARLY 1980(SEE ABOVE).

C VENEZUELA IS A PARTY TO THE NPT, BUT HAS NOT YET
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CARACA 04006 291307Z

CONCLUDED A SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE TREATY. IT IS A PARTY TO A TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE IAEA AND THE US.

D AN AGREEMENT WITH VENEZUELA WOULD PROBABLY ENHANCE OUR NEGOTIATING PROGRAM WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE VENEZUELA WILL WANT TO GET OUT TOO FAR AHEAD OF ITS NEIGHBORS ON THESE ISSUES, AND THE GOV CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED TO WATCH CLOSELY THE PROGRESS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES.
VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA04006
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780185-0028
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978046/aaaaaest.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c56ea1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 93306
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2977906
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ; NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS FOR PEACEFUL NUCLEAR COOPERATION
TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, TECH, PARM, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c56ea1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014